

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

The system generates a trailer (step 310). Similar to the header, the trailer is an XML processing instruction such as: `<?xpacket . . .?>`. The trailer complies with the XML well-formedness constraints. This processing instruction indicates the end of the XML document and the beginning of any well-formed padding. The processing instruction of the trailer includes an XML attribute called "end". The value of this attribute `[[if]]` is either "r" or "w". When the value is "r", the XML packet is a read-only packet and cannot be modified in place. When the value is "w", the XML packet may be modified in place if and only if there is sufficient padding. If a modification causes the XML document to exceed padding in the XML packet, the system prompts for further modification until the XML document no longer exceeds the padding. If a modification reduces the size of the XML document, the system grows the padding in the XML packet so that the overall size of the XML packet remains constant.